Strada Public Viewpoint: COVID-19 Work and Education Survey

Interview Dates: Oct. 14-29, 2020

Audience: National online survey of Americans ages 18 and above excluding retirees. Quotas based on the U.S. Census were used to ensure results that are nationally representative by age, gender, race/ethnicity, and region. Sample size n=1,593

1. How do you feel about your opportunities to advance in your current job? My opportunities to advance at work are ....
   a. Very poor 10%
   b. Poor 13%
   c. Uncertain 26%
   d. Good 32%
   e. Very good 19%

   Base: Individuals who were employed full-time or part-time or self-employed, n=1,144.

2. How do you feel about your ability to get a good job? Please rate your feelings on a scale of 1 to 5, where “1” means very difficult and “5” means very easy.
   1. Very difficult for me to get a good job 26%
   2. 14%
   3. 34%
   4. 15%
   5. Very easy for me to get a good job 16%

3. Thinking about your local economy and the jobs you would like to have, how would more education or training impact your ability to get a good job and advance at work? More education and training would:
   a. Give me a very strong advantage 25%
   b. Give me a strong advantage 23%
   c. Give me somewhat of an advantage 23%
   d. Give me a very small advantage 7%
   e. Make no difference 22%
4. Thinking about why you may feel your opportunities to advance at work or find a good job may be limited, please rate each of the following for how well they describe your situation.

**There are few opportunities for people that look like me**
- a. Describes my situation very well 14%
- b. Describes my situation well 16%
- c. Somewhat describes my situation 27%
- d. Barely describes my situation 14%
- e. Does not apply to my situation 29%

**I don't have an employer who will provide training**
- a. Describes my situation very well 17%
- b. Describes my situation well 18%
- c. Somewhat describes my situation 21%
- d. Barely describes my situation 11%
- e. Does not apply to my situation 34%

**I don't have an employer who will help pay for education**
- a. Describes my situation very well 19%
- b. Describes my situation well 17%
- c. Somewhat describes my situation 21%
- d. Barely describes my situation 10%
- e. Does not apply to my situation 33%

**The system isn't fair**
- a. Describes my situation very well 15%
- b. Describes my situation well 19%
- c. Somewhat describes my situation 24%
- d. Barely describes my situation 19%
- e. Does not apply to my situation 29%

**I don't have the right skills**
- a. Describes my situation very well 14%
- b. Describes my situation well 16%
- c. Somewhat describes my situation 23%
- d. Barely describes my situation 19%
- e. Does not apply to my situation 28%
I don’t have the right education, certifications or degree

a. Describes my situation very well 16%
b. Describes my situation well 14%
c. Somewhat describes my situation 23%
d. Barely describes my situation 14%
e. Does not apply to my situation 29%

I don’t know where to begin or how to focus my efforts

a. Describes my situation very well 15%
b. Describes my situation well 18%
c. Somewhat describes my situation 28%
d. Barely describes my situation 13%
e. Does not apply to my situation 27%

Base: Individuals who feel that opportunities to advance at work are poor, or who feel it would be difficult to get a good job, n=1,129.

5. Some people say that education and training is not worth the cost. Below is a list of reasons they give. Please choose the top three and rank them in order of why you personally don’t believe getting more education or training would be worth the cost.

Time away from work

a. Any rank 40%
b. Ranked 1st 15%
c. Ranked 2nd 14%
d. Ranked 3rd 11%

Impact on my relationships

a. Any rank 26%
b. Ranked 1st 8%
c. Ranked 2nd 10%
d. Ranked 3rd 8%

The effort and energy it would take

a. Any rank 53%
b. Ranked 1st 9%
c. Ranked 2nd 17%
d. Ranked 3rd 21%
The quality of education or training available

a. Any rank 36%
b. Ranked 1st 9%
c. Ranked 2nd 13%
d. Ranked 3rd 14%

My confidence about how well I would do

a. Any rank 37%
b. Ranked 1st 10%
c. Ranked 2nd 11%
d. Ranked 3rd 16%

The financial cost

a. Any rank 65%
b. Ranked 1st 32%
c. Ranked 2nd 19%
d. Ranked 3rd 14%

No real benefit at work

a. Any rank 49%
b. Ranked 1st 16%
c. Ranked 2nd 16%
d. Ranked 3rd 16%

Base: Individuals in the workforce who believe that getting more education or training would not be worth the cost, n=682.

6. Would any of the following improve your confidence that additional education or training would be worth the cost?

Work-based learning opportunities (such as apprenticeships and internships)

a. Definitely 14%
b. Probably 30%
c. Maybe 34%
d. Probably not 16%
e. Definitely not 7%

Partnerships between employers and education or training programs

a. Definitely 15%
b. Probably 28%
c. Maybe 38%
d. Probably not 12%
e. Definitely not 7%
### Education or training that develops skills that local employers want

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### Help identifying the most valuable skills you could develop through education and training

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### Help identifying pathways between education and careers that fit your strengths

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### Additional support to help you be successful in classes

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